

MEDIA RELEASE



**Attention: News Director
For Immediate Release
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**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
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**ASSISTANT UNITED STATES ATTORNEY JO E. LAWLESS
RECEIVES AWARD FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FOR SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE AS AN ASSISTANT UNITED STATES ATTORNEY**

The Department of Justice held its 23rd annual Executive Office for United States Attorneys Director's Awards Ceremony on Friday, October 20, 2006, during which 154 award recipients were recognized for their excellence in law enforcement. Recipients included Assistant United States Attorneys, litigation and information technology support personnel, and others who have made outstanding contributions in federal, state and local law enforcement.

Ms. Lawless was nominated for this award for her outstanding and effective prosecution in a series of cases involving the sexual exploitation of children. In 2006, Ms. Lawless prosecuted three child sexual exploitation cases which culminated in sentencing hearings which occurred on three consecutive business days from May 12, 2006, through May 15, 2006. The defendants, who ranged in age from 24 to 70 years of age, were sentenced to terms of imprisonment of 30, 30, and 40 years. The defendants were charged with some of the most serious federal offenses involving the sexual exploitation of children, including online enticement, distribution to a minor, advertising, and production of child pornography. One case went to trial in January 2006, during which AUSA

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Lawless prepared and called a minor victim as a witness. In two cases where the defendants entered open pleas, Ms. Lawless prepared for and conducted day long sentencing hearings at which she called forensic and psychological experts and introduced extensive evidence from the defendant's computer, as well as evidence of aggravating factors warranting a lengthy sentence. Most recently, in September 2006, a Ft. Knox Sergeant, Joseph Anthony Glover, was sentenced to 70 years imprisonment for the aggravated sexual assault on a child and violating federal child pornography laws in another prosecution by Ms. Lawless.

The award recipients were honored for their extraordinary commitment to protecting our communities, promoting justice and preserving the civil liberties that make our country so great," said Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales. "It is through their dedicated efforts and sacrifice that we are able to preserve justice for our communities, our nation and for future generations."

U.S. Attorney David L. Huber said, "Jo Lawless more than deserves this national recognition. She has been relentless in her prosecution of child pornographers and those who sexually abuse children."

The Executive Office for United States Attorneys provides oversight, general executive assistance, and direction to the 94 United States Attorneys' Offices around the country.

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